

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G. G. Schlauder, et al.

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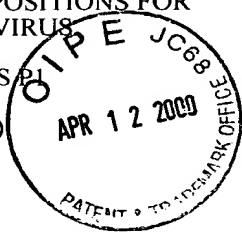
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For: METHODS AND COMPOSITIONS FOR
DETECTING HEPATITIS E VIRUS

Attorney Docket No.: 6232.US/P1

Examiner: (Not Assigned Yet)

Date: April 4, 2000

**Certificate of Mailing under 37 CFR §1.8(a):**

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail addressed to:

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Signature: Wanda E. Smith**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The following information is submitted, pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97-1.98 in accordance with Applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56. This submission is not intended to constitute an admission that any patent, publication or other information cited herein is "prior art" as to the invention claimed. In accordance with 37 CFR §§1.97(g)-(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that other material information as defined by 37 CFR §1.56(a) exists.

Applicants submit herewith Form PTO 1449 listing the references cited in this Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner (1) initial each reference listed on the enclosed Form PTO 1449 indicating that the Examiner has considered and made those references of record in this application and (2) return a copy of the initialed Form PTO 1449 to Applicants. Copies of references are also enclosed (and marked with an asterisk*), except where previously submitted in U.S. Serial No. 09/173,141, filed 10/15/98 from which this application claims priority.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits under 37 CFR §1.97(b). Accordingly, no fee is due.

Respectfully submitted,
G. G. Schlauder, et al.

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